

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks, wherein Claim 1 has been canceled and Claims 2-7, 10-11 and 14-15 have been amended.

As an initial matter, Claims 1-15 have been objected to for containing an informality. As a result, Claim 1 has been amended to remove the phrase "a plurality of said rotational phase restriction mechanisms". Accordingly, withdrawal of the claim objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4, 6, 10-11, and 14-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,058,897 to *Nakayoshi*. However, the Examiner has indicated that Claims 5, 7-9, and 12-13 are allowable if rewritten in independent form.

As a result, Applicants have canceled Claim 1, and incorporated the subject matter of Claim 1 into allowable Claims 5 and 7. In addition, claims formerly dependent upon Claim 1 have been amended to now depend from either Claim 5 or Claim 7. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections of record and allowance of this application is earnestly solicited.

Should any questions arise in connection with this application or should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference with the undersigned would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues pertaining to this application the undersigned respectfully requests that she be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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